

California Fish Passage Forum

Requests for
Fish Passage Project
Funding



CONTACT INFORMATION

Date

10/17/13

Name

Mark Lancaster

Address

PO Box 2758 Weaverville, CA 96093

Telephone

530-623-3967 ext 111

E-mail

mlancaster@5counties.org

PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Name of Project

Sharber/Peckham Creek Fish Passage Project

2. Location of Project (Latitude and longitude, decimal degrees, NAD 1983)

40°53'45"N Lat, 123°33'38"W Long

3. Please attach a map of your project.

Map_SharberPeckham.pdf

4. Description of Project, including deliverables and outcomes you seek to achieve.

The proposed project will replace an undersized culvert which has created a migration barrier to anadromous fish species on Sharber/Peckham Creek. This barrier prevents access to upstream spawning and rearing habitat for threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), Upper Klamath-Trinity Rivers Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Klamath Mountains Province Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). Removal of this barrier would allow use of approximately 1.2 miles of high quality spawning, over-wintering and summer rearing habitat within this tributary. Currently, anadromous fish can access only the lower 0.2 miles of Sharber/Peckham Creek. The project area is within designated critical habitat and Essential Fish Habitat for SONCC coho salmon. Deliverables of the proposed project will include a final construction and monitoring report documenting the success of the project.

This project will address spawning, rearing and fish passage requirements by removing the impassable culvert and installing a 12 foot x 14 foot multi-plate arch culvert allowing juvenile and adult fish to move further up into the watershed where high quality summer and winter rearing and spawning habitat exists. This project is part of a larger effort within the range of SONCC coho salmon to open up access to inaccessible habitat that was previously part of the species range. The new crossing will have an increased flow capacity beyond that of the existing culvert and will be designed to pass a 100-year flood of 2,062 cfs, while maintaining the natural streambed and channel width. This project is one of the highest priority recovery actions listed for the Lower Trinity population unit in NMFS coho salmon recovery plan, and implementation of this project will increase population and species viability, helping to recover coho salmon in the Klamath River basin.

This project will result in long-term benefits to SONCC coho salmon in the Sharber/Peckham Creek watershed by improving passage condition, thus increasing the availability of habitat (adding approximately one mile) accessible for spawning and rearing, and increasing population viability in the Lower Trinity population unit, which will assist with recovery of SONCC coho salmon. Passage condition will be improved by removing the current undersized culvert which is impassable to salmonids at various life history stages and at the majority of flow conditions. The increased capacity of the proposed crossing will allow for the conveyance of greater flows and transport of associated bedload and woody debris associated with higher flows.

5. Does this project have a Passage Assessment Database (PAD) database identification number?

- ☒ YES
☐ NO

6. If you answered yes to the question above, please provide the PAD ID number.

758587

7. Please describe how you determined that this barrier is a high priority project.

- ☒ Barrier is listed in a key restoration plan for the region (see question number 8 below)
- ☒ Endorsed by agency
- ☐ Local knowledge/conversation with local representatives

8. Please include the name(s) of the recovery plans and the specific task that name this barrier as a high priority, the agency that endorsed this project, or the local representative that names this project as a priority.

Recovery Plan for the Evolutionarily Significant Unit of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Salmon Public Draft Version: January 2012 (SONCC Plan): Task SONCC-LTR.5.1.32.2, The project is supported by the USFS and NOAA Fisheries.

9. The California Fish Passage Forum has nine overall objectives. Please place a check mark next to which of the objectives your project will help to address.

- ☒ 1. Remediate barriers to effective fish migration.
- ☒ 2. Facilitate coordination and communication among agencies, agency staff, and other entities that may propose, review, or promulgate fish passage criteria within California.
- ☒ 3. Identify, assess and prioritize the removal of fish passage barriers.
- ☐ 4. Disseminate guidelines and design criteria for replacement of barriers.
- ☐ 5. Coordinate funding mechanisms to remove fish passage barriers.
- ☐ 6. Promote state and federal permit coordination and streamlining.
- ☐ 7. Facilitate plans to monitor and evaluate fish passage restoration effectiveness to ensure accountability.
- ☐ 8. Promote state and national policy and actions that support fish passage improvement in California.
- ☐ 9. Implement education and outreach activities, targeting both the general public and fish passage practitioners.

10. Please provide a brief explanation of how your project addresses all of the checked boxes in the previous question.

The project will remove a fish passage barrier on private land within a watershed identified as a priority by the Public Draft Recovery Plan for Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Salmon. Removal of this barrier will restore access to about one mile of spawning, over-wintering and rearing fish habitat.

Planning and implementation of this project will be a cooperative effort among the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program, Six Rivers National Forest, the Northern California Office of NOAA Fisheries, and local landowners.

11. Please list the anadromous fish species that will benefit from your project.

- ☒ Coho salmon
- ☒ Chinook salmon
- ☒ Steelhead/rainbow trout
- ☐ Pacific lamprey
- ☐ Coastal cutthroat trout
- ☐ Green sturgeon
- ☐ White sturgeon
- ☐ Eulachon
- ☐ Threespine stickleback
- ☐ Other (please list species)

12. Please provide the location and distance in stream miles to downstream river structures, and whether each structure represents an insignificant, partial, or total barrier to fish passage.

The proposed project is located, on Sharber/Peckham Creek, approximately 0.2 miles upstream from the Trinity River. There are no known river structures from the proposed project site downstream to the Trinity River.

13. Please provide the location and distance in stream miles to upstream river structures, and whether each structure represents an insignificant, partial, or total barrier to fish passage.

There are no known river structures upstream of the proposed project site. The natural limit of anadromy terminates at a waterfall and steep gradient, approximately one mile above the project site.

14. Please briefly describe how your project will be evaluated and measured for success.

The project will be evaluated and measured for success through both physical and biological monitoring activities. Biological monitoring will consist of fish presence surveys during both spawning season (assessing adult migration) and summer season (assessing passage of juveniles). Physical monitoring will consist of longitudinal profiles and cross sectional surveys through the project area to confirm that the project was built as designed and no unintended channel adjustment occurs.

15. Will your project be implemented within 12-18 months?

☒ YES

☐ NO

16. Please attach a document that provides a description of the project's timeline (including permits) as well as implementation and monitoring dates. Please describe any issues that exist, if any, that could delay project implementation.

Timeline_SharberPeckham.pdf

PROJECT BUDGET

17. Please attach a project budget sheet (Word document, .pdf, or Excel spreadsheet) that describes the overall project budget and any seed or other funding that exists to support implementing this project. Additionally, identify if other funding is committed or pending and if the project would be fully funded if Forum funds are received.

Budget_SharberPeckham.pdf

PROJECT TEAM CAPABILITIES

18. Please describe the experience and capabilities of up to three of the project leaders relative to their ability to implement this project.

The 5C Program and its staff have participated in over 65 barrier removal projects, predominately culvert crossings associated with county roads, restoring access to more than 140 miles of salmonid habitat (visit www.5counties.org for more information). Staff members possess a wide range of skills necessary to effectively implement restoration projects including: fisheries biology, watershed ecology, grant and report writing, project and grant contract management and execution, permitting compliance, various field surveying and restoration techniques, database design and management, fiscal management, land use planning, forestry, and GIS mapping. The key individuals from the 5C Program staff that will be involved with this project include the Program Director (Lancaster), Project Coordinator (Colbeck/Lindstrand), and Field Technicians. Key individuals expected to participate with project implementation are listed below.

Mark Lancaster, Registered Professional Forester #2462 has extensive design and construction oversight experience. Mr. Lancaster has worked on the design and construction of 8 culvert barrier removal and replacement projects in conjunction with Trinity County Department of Transportation. In addition, Mr. Lancaster has designed and overseen the construction of road drainage upgrade projects on county roads and private roads in Trinity and Mendocino Counties.

David Colbeck, Project Coordinator, 5C Program. Mr. Colbeck, most recently, managed a fish passage culvert replacement project on Conner Creek (Trinity Co.) implemented summer 2012. This project was recognized as an Honorable Mention Distinguished Project in Fisheries Engineering and Ecohydrology Award by the American Fisheries Society in 2013. He has experience with all aspects of project design, implementation, permitting and compliance.

Claire Lindstrand, Project Coordinator, 5C Program. Ms. Lindstrand has over 10 years of field experience in both fisheries and hydrological monitoring. She has a B.S. in Ecology and M.S. in Natural Resources (Watershed Management).

OUTREACH

19. Does your project have a community outreach component? If so, please describe (e.g., press release, newsletter, volunteers, schools, etc).

This project will provide an opportunity for local landowners to be part of an important conservation effort. The 5C Program is highly effective in promoting and sustaining collaborative efforts. 5C recognizes that taking on these challenges will lead to a healthier environment, sustainable fisheries, and better community, all of which contribute to a more robust economy. All monitoring data associated with the project will be reported to all organizations that fund the project in the form of progress or final reports as specified in the grant agreement, as well as having the final report posted to the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's website (www.5counties.org). The 5C Program and its staff have published multiple reports on migration barrier removal projects and routinely share data with both public and private organizations. The 5C Program routinely posts its projects and activities in the Trinity Journal which provides an opportunity for the public to learn about the restoration activities in and around their community. The 5C Program also holds community workshops covering various topics ranging from the role of the beaver in the riparian ecosystem to water conservation, and highlights fish passage projects.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME AND MAKING THE EFFORT TO COMPLETE THIS FORM. FORUM MEMBERS WILL BE CONTACTING YOU TO DISCUSS THE OUTCOMES OF THIS FUNDING PROCESS.

THE FORUM IS PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SO THAT YOU MAY UNDERSTAND THE 11 KEY AREAS OF IMPORTANCE IN YOUR APPLICATION:

1. Forum Objectives. Does the project meet any of the Forum's 9 objectives?
2. Priority. To what extent does the project relate to a priority stream, river, or species issue as identified in local, state, or regional plans?
3. Diadromous Benefits. Would the project result in an open, connected river system with increased access to suitable diadromous fish habitat (e.g., consider upstream and downstream barriers, habitat quality)?
4. Overall Ecological Benefits. Would the project yield broad ecological benefits (e.g., ecosystem-based, multiple life stages of multiple species - including diadromous species, natural riverine functions, riparian/floodplain connectivity)?
5. Evaluation. Is there an adequate method and/or monitoring plan in place for evaluating project success?
6. Project Readiness. Will the project be implemented within 12-16 months?
7. Permitting. Is the project likely to successfully complete the regulatory process (local, state, and federal) within a reasonable timeframe (i.e., 6-12 months)? Does the proposal include information on the status of necessary permits and consultations? Are there any regulatory issues that may be insurmountable or cause long-term delays?
8. Value. Is the project cost-effective relative to its complexity, regulatory environment, and potential ecological and community benefits? Are the proposed costs substantiated and is the majority of funding going towards on-the-ground restoration? (points can be deducted if the budget is unclear)
9. Match. Has this project secured any match?
10. Project Management. Do the proposal, project manager, project team, and preliminary project work instill confidence that the project will be completed successfully?
11. Outreach. Does the proposal include public outreach as it relates to the proposed restoration, including plans to disseminate information on: 1) restoration goals and results; 2) sources of funding and other support provided, such as the involvement of partners; and 3) the potential for the proposed restoration to encourage future restoration and protection of marine and coastal habitats or complement other local restoration or conservation activities?